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materials that would allow a sterilizing gas such as for example ethylene oxide (ETO) to pass into space 19 of the housing, and yet at the same time prevents bacteria or other contaminants from intruding or passing into space 19.

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With reference to Figs. 2 and 5, the device of the instant invention is shown to include a double-ended needle assembly 18 fitted to neck 8 of holder 2. Double-ended needle assembly 18 has a first cannula 20 that extends away from holder 2 and another cannula extending into space 19 of holder 2, and which is shown to be covered by a rubber shroud 22. Needle assembly 18 has a base, or hub, 24 that includes a threaded portion 26 that is threaded to the internal threads 29 of neck 8. Once fully threaded into neck 8, base 24 is substantially positioned within sleeve 14. Although shown as being threadedly mated, in practice, for the instant invention, hub 24 of needle assembly 18 may be press fitted to neck 8. Hub 24 may be threaded to neck 8 of holder 2 with a torque force sufficient to ensure that once fitted, hub 24 could not be removed from neck 8.

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Q4
Another route via which sterilizing gas may be routed to space 34 is by way of space 19 of holder 2. The path of the sterilizing gas from holder 2 is indicated by directional arrow 36. The threads 26t of the threaded portion 26 of hub 24 are configured such that, when mated with the internal threads 29 of neck 8, spaces such as 38 are effected between threaded portion 26 and neck 8. Thus, sterilizing gas could in fact be routed to space 34 by way of the opening at holder 2. As was noted earlier, cover 16 heat sealed to distal end 6 of holder 2 prevents bacteria from intruding into space 19 of holder 2 while at the same time allows sterilizing gas to enter into space 19 and, from there, eventually into space 34 defined by sheath 28. Cannula 20 may therefore be sterilized by the ETO gas input into space 34 either by way of tortuous path 30 or by way of arrow 36. It should be noted, however, given that tortuous path 30 is